THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • THURSDAY • MAY 16, 2024 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 20 • LATE CITY EDITION

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TRICHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

FIRST SET OF 14 TO GET INDIAN CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship certificates were handed over to 14 people by Union home secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla at a special function in Delhi. Digitally signed certificates are also being sent to a few hundred other applicants through email. It comes nearly two months after the rules under the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) were notified | P9

U.P. DIARIES

A TRYST WITH DESTINY THAT WASN'T TO BE

SANTWANA BHATTACHARYA
EDITOR

AMETHI: Amethi is waiting for Godot. Or for a Gandhi. Not just for a 53-year-old with that name, but something inclusive of that — and more than that. A Nehru-Gandhi did not get into a direct contest here, but had long-time aide K L Sharma stand in. Those within and outside who had betted big on a re-run of 2019 are disappointed. The gladiatorial fight that was to be is now substantially downscaled. But a fight is on, albeit by proxy, and reduced to a scrimmage of competitive accusations. Even while abandoning Rahul in 2019, it's as if Amethi kept up its love for high-profile contests, as if to keep itself in the reckoning by default, its own little tryst with destiny.

They are getting one, even if in an abridged version. Smriti Irani, Union minister and the BJP's prime commentator-critic on all things Nehru-Gandhi, has stayed put to defend her turf. Though Rahul Gandhi has shifted to adjoining Rae Bareli, he looms large even in his absence. Mostly because his sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is quite visibly there. Even though the Congress has appointed Rampur MLA Aradhana Mishra 'Mona' as the party poll in-charge for Amethi, Priyanka is managing the electioneering here along with Rae Bareli, like a safekeeper of the legacy vote.

All around the constituency, the pockmarked narrative of Indian democracy reveals itself. Amethi moves through its village dirt-tracks and peri-urban roadways at a groaning pace, as if caught in a time zone of struggle all its own. But also representative, at once, of the cracks in the India story. Despite its seeming mundaneness, the Amethi electorate stands witness to history. Its creation, in 1967, was coeval with the unfolding of the crucial post-Nehru phase in modern Indian politics. Since then, it has in a way reflected the mood of the nation at all the cusp moments. Electing a Congress candidate, Vidya Dhar Bajpai, as its first MP, going with the Janata Party candidate in 1977 and a BJP candidate in 1998 and 2019.

CONTINUED ON: P9

NewsClick editor gets bail at last

Purkayastha out of Tihar after SC declares his arrest and remand under UAPA null and void

SUCHITRA MOHANTY @ New Delhi

NEWSCLICK founder and chief editor Prabir Purkayastha was released from Tihar Jail on Wednesday after the Supreme Court invalidated his arrest and subsequent remand in the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) case.

Purkayastha was arrested in October last year under anti-terror UAPA for allegedly receiving money to spread pro-China propaganda in India.

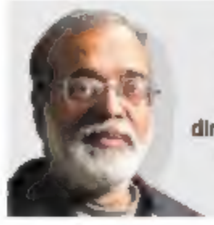
Observing that the right to life and personal liberty was the most sacrosanct fundamental right guaranteed under the Constitution, the court said any person arrested under UAPA or other offences has a fundamental and a statutory right to be informed about the grounds of arrest in writing.

"There is no hesitation in the mind of the court to reach a conclusion that the copy of the remand application in the purported exercise of communication of the grounds of arrest in writing was not provided to the accused appellant (Purkayastha) or his counsel before passing of the order of remand dated October 4, 2023 which vitiates the arrest and subsequent remand of the appellant," a two-judge bench comprising justices B R Gavai and Sandeep Mehta said. "Any other interpretation would tantamount to diluting the sanctity of the fundamental right guaranteed under Article 22(1) of the Constitution of India," it said.

The bench said the right to be informed about the grounds of arrest flows from Article 22(1) of the Constitution.

Soon after the verdict, a Delhi court issued the release order for Purkayastha.

According to the FIR against him, the news portal he runs allegedly received huge amounts of money from China to "disrupt the sovereignty of India" and cause disaffection against the country.



DELHI COURT ISSUES GAG ORDER

A Delhi court while issuing bail to NewsClick founder and editor-in-chief Prabir Purkayastha directed him not to comment on the merits of the case or tamper with the evidence. He must not contact any witnesses or approver in the case

Anjali Ambiger

Vishwanath

Spurned lover stabs girl to death in Hubballi

AMIT S UPADHYE @ Hubballi

A 20-year-old girl was allegedly murdered by a 22-year-old youth at Veerapur Oni near Dajibanpet here on Wednesday morning.

Vishwanath alias Girish Sawant, the accused, allegedly attacked Anjali Ambiger at her house, slit her throat with a knife after repeatedly stabbing her. He fled the spot immediately leaving her in a pool of blood.

Vishwanath had been pestering Anjal for many years to marry him But Anjali and her family members were against it. Two weeks ago, Vishwanath went to Anjali's house and threatened to kill her the way Neha Hiremath was murdered. CONTINUED ON: P5

Was to fly from Munich? Prajwal fools SIT again

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

ABSCONDING MP Prajwal Revanna, the prime accused in Hassan sex scandal, seems to have again hoodwinked the SIT, which was expecting him to land in KIA around 12.30 am on Thursday.

It is learnt that the MP did not board the flight which he had booked. The flight ticket is said to have been booked by a travel agency in Haryana in Prajwal's name, indicating that he might return to Bengaluru from Munich early Thursday.

Sleuths of SIT waited for Prajwal at KIA to take him into their custody as soon as he landed there.

Prajwal had booked flight tickets on two occasions, but cancelled them. This might be a ploy by him to hoodwink the SIT, according to sources. The MP has been on the run for nearly a fortnight ever since the formation of SIT under BK Singh, ADGP (CID). He is said to have gone to Germany on April 27. Prajwal, who has a diplomatic passport, requires no visa to travel abroad. Two regular notices, a lookout notice and a Blue Corner Notice have been issued against him. MORE: P4

Will give outside support to I.N.D.I.A bloc, says Mamata

SULAGNA SENGUPTA @ Kolkata

WEST Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday claimed she will provide outside support to the Opposition's INDIA bloc if it comes to power at the Centre, but redefined the contours of the alliance to exclude the CPM and the Bengal chapter of the Congress from it.

Addressing a rally at Hooghly, Mamata said, "We will provide leadership to the INDIA alliance, and help them in every way from outside. We will form a government so that in Bengal our mothers and sisters never face a problem and those who work in the 100-days-job scheme do not face problems."

Her antipathy for the CPM and the state Congress led by Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury is well known.

According to political analyst Snigdhendu Bhattacharya, Mamata seems to be trying to keep the triangular contest between the TMC, the BJP and the Left-Congress alliance alive so that the anti-TMC votes do not polarise in favour of the BJP. She doesn't want the BJP's charge that the TMC, Congress and the Left are together, to find any credence.

EXPRESS READ

Kannada on jerseys of Scotland T20 WC team

Bengaluru: For the first time, an Indian language will be displayed on the jerseys of international cricketers in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup tournament, starting from June 1 in the U.S. Players from Ireland and Scotland will be seen wearing jerseys with the logo of KMF's Nandini in Kannada and English on their lead arm | P2

LOVED IN 70 COUNTRIES
BAJAJ
THE WORLD'S FAVOURITE INDIAN
The All-New pulsar N250
ENTER THE BIG LEAGUE
Power up to the world of big biking with the all-new Pulsar N250, engineered for absolute precision and total control with USD Forks, 3 ABS ride modes, Traction Control, and a Bluetooth-connected digital console.
Get yours at ₹1 50 259/-
Scan to know more
pulsar
DEFINITELY DARING
72198 21111
BAJAJ FINANCE LTD - AF
BAJAJ SECURE
#Terms and conditions apply. *Starting price for Pulsar N250 variant. Finance at sole discretion of the financier. Bajaj Auto reserves the right to withdraw any or all offers without prior notice. Stunts have been performed by experts, under professional supervision, in a controlled and enclosed environment, in isolation from general public or public roads. Please do not attempt to replicate these stunts and always follow traffic and safety rules. AMC available on specific models and in specific states. Check with Bajaj dealer for more details. Road Side Assistance is provided by third parties and is subject to their terms and conditions.
Authorized Dealers for BAJAJ Auto Ltd.: Bommanahalli AMBA BAJAJ: 9535411100 • HSR Layout AMBA BAJAJ: 8884333732 • Sarjapur AMBA BAJAJ: 7406688884 • BTM Layout AMBA BAJAJ: 9513926221 • Madiwala AMBA BAJAJ: 9945000048 • Electronic City AMBA BAJAJ: 8971711118 • Nayandahalli Mysore Rd RV BAJAJ: 6360308373 • Chandra Layout Moodalapalya RV BAJAJ: 9740444545 • Kengeri RV BAJAJ: 7353763305 • Giri Nagar RV BAJAJ: 7353763302 • Vijaynagar RV BAJAJ: 7353763307 • Bannerghatta Rd POPULAR BAJAJ: 9945143890 • Rajajinagar POPULAR BAJAJ : 6366554001 • Jayanagar POPULAR BAJAJ: 9880742890 • Banashankari POPULAR BAJAJ: 9945111874 • Koramangala POPULAR BAJAJ: 9845589079 • Konankunte POPULAR BAJAJ: 7760967834 • Ramnagara POPULAR BAJAJ: 7760967832 • Kanakpura POPULAR BAJAJ: 9972533890 • POPULAR BAJAJ Channapatna 9901947666 • POPULAR BAJAJ Uttarahalli 9972095890 • POPULAR BAJAJ Gottigere 7760996891 • Yelahanka KALYANI BAJAJ: 9449849618 • Mekhri circle KALYANI BAJAJ 8884413593 Mathikere KALYANI BAJAJ: 8884430126 • Chikkaballapura KALYANI BAJAJ: 8884413594 • Devanahalli KALYANI BAJAJ: 9449849624 • Marathahalli KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035091986 • Kasturba Rd KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060140 • Indiranagar KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060139 • Hennur KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9742155225 • Banaswadi KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060147 • Yeshwanthpur : KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: - 96320 68142 • Hesargatta KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060148 • Whitefield KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060142 • Dobbospet KHIVRAJ BAJAJ : 8951858121 K R Puram: KHIVRAJ BAJAJ 6366911739. Hoskote KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035005075 • Magadi Rd ANANT BAJAJ: 9980009166 • Laggere ANANT BAJAJ: 7022984402 • Kolar : KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 81970 13783 • Malur KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 81970 13783 • KGF KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 7349507477 • Mulbagalu KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 81970 13783 • BANGARAPET KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 81970 13783 • Tumkur AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7259040212 • Tiptur AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7259040226 • Sira AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7259040328 • Kunigal AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7338662706 • Madhugiri AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7259040340 • BH Road: 7338662687 • Bidar SINDOL BAJAJ 9513226555. Authorised Service Centre: T C Palya : 9845888872 • Ramagondanahalli 8197515476 • Puttenahalli 9353841613 • Anekal 9900307992 • Jigani 9964538593 • Hegganahalli 9986024827 • Nelamangala 9620203739 • Kanteerava studio 8453865558 • Chintamani 9986090015 • Gowribidanur 9845683795 • Vidyaranyapura 9611100318 • Doddaballapur 9901653555 • H Cross 9880127577 • Bagepalli 9901903009 • Vijayapura 9980008617 • MS Palya 9945517555 • Thanisandra 9845871393 • Attibele 9743393444 • Dommasandra 8722297002 • Chandapur 9740089356 • Huskurgate [illegible] • uppanagar 9845964468 • Nagadevanahalli 8494930790 • Byadarahalli 9964342264 • Magadi 9591228002 • Tavarakere 9845454807 • Turuvekere 9980225444 • C N Halli 9448432865 • Gubbi 9980315559 • Pavagada 9448333305 • Huliyar 9900390362 • Valmiki Nagar 9844174606